

55 YEARS OF  
LOS ANGELES VALLEY COLLEGE  
HISTORY REVISITED  
LAVC'S FIRST HISTORY BOOK,  
CHRONICLING 55 YEARS,  
ARRIVES ON CAMPUS.

VALLEY LIFE PG. 4  
WINNING SPIRIT  
VALLEY STUDENT TAKES  
HOME THE BIG HONOR AT  
THE SHOWCASE AWARDS.

SPORTS PG. 9  
ALL STAR  
VALLEY STUDENT  
EXCELS BOTH ON  
AND OFF THE FIELD.

GALLERY PG. 10  
AWARDS  
STUDENTS PERFORM AT  
THE 4TH ANNUAL  
SHOWCASE AWARDS.

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# VALLEY STAR

THE INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF LOS ANGELES VALLEY COLLEGE

VOLUME 63, ISSUE NO. 6

APRIL 20, 2005

It's YOUR Newspaper

## Two Teens Die in High-Speed Crash

■ A car accident kills two and injures one Monday night, while causing a campus-wide blackout at Valley.

By TAMMY FUNICELLO  
STAFF WRITER

Two teen-agers died and one passenger suffered multiple fractures Tuesday night when their gray sedan crashed into a power pole near the corner of Coldwater Canyon and Oxnard Boulevard, according to police.

At approximately 9:05 p.m., three students traveling at a high speed swerved to pass another car and plowed into a power pole on the west side of the street. The driver, 17-year-old Arakse Muradyan, was pronounced dead at the scene from head and chest trauma. The front-seat passenger was 16-year-old Ani Muradyan, who was also pronounced dead at the scene from suffering similar injuries, according to a press release by Toni Wolfe of the LAPD Valley Traffic Division. Both girls were former Grant High School students.

"What a waste of life," said friend of the victims Hovik Azatyan. "Those are three young girls. My prayers go out to their families. It was a horrible scene. No one could have

survived that crash."

The only survivor of the crash was Grant High School senior Natalie Darmandjian. She was sitting in the back seat of the car and was rushed to Holy Cross Medical Center with two broken legs and facial lacerations. She was later released.

"We are going to be here to support Natalie," said Grant Principle Sandra Cruz. "We want to do everything we can to provide counseling and academic support to the students."

Grant has set up a crisis team for students or parents who need counseling.

"She [Araxie] was a good friend and always friendly to everyone," said friend Grant Chaglasian. "She was a good person that wasn't the type to get into a fight with anyone."

Valley College suffered a power outage due to the crash for about 9:05 p.m. to 10 p.m., canceling many night classes.

Mourners placed candles, flowers and a stuffed teddy bear that read "Love" at the crash site.

Cynthia Perry contributed to this story.



GREG BURMANN / VALLEY STAR

**IN LOVING MEMORY** - Grant Chaglasian (left) and Eduard Avetisyan (right) light candles in memory of the teens killed in a car accident at Coldwater Canyon and Oxnard Boulevard Monday night.

## High Gas Prices Take a Toll on LAVC Students

■ High gas prices force students to change the way they go about their day.

By HANS CARDENAS  
SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Current gas prices are putting the crunch on Valley College students, bringing smart travel and money management to the forefront of their thoughts.

"I'm not shopping as much because all my money is going to gas," said 28-year-old nursing major Nancy Cuellar. "I drive a lot."

Last week, California's price

for self-serve regular gas jumped 12.8 cents to \$2.592 a gallon, an increase of 43.5 cents from a year ago.

California's fuel cost is expected to remain higher than the rest of the nation's this summer, with prices 25 to 50 cents above the estimated U.S. average of \$2.28 a gallon, according to the Energy Information Administration. Some of the reasons include the growing number of drivers, the spread of gas-

guzzling SUVs and the assumption that many of California's drivers will take long road trips, said Guy Caruso, head of the administration.

While the increase in prices is affecting everyone, Glenn Milner, chair of the economics, philosophy and Jewish studies departments predicts that although students won't dramatically change their lifestyles

see [Gas] page 2

## Memorial Scholarship Deadlines Approaching

By H.M. DE OCA  
SPECIAL TO THE STAR

With the days of enrolling for a class at \$11 per unit long gone, students can use all the financial help they can get. The History, Humanities, Law 3 and Political Science (HHLPS) Department is accepting applications for the annual Oliver Watters and James Willet Memorial Scholarships until April 29.

"These scholarships are a great opportunity not only because they are specific for

students [of these disciplines]," said Ron Cabrera, commissioner of political affairs. "But also because they are available as a second chance for students that might have missed out on scholarship offers earlier in the year."

This year, the amount of each award has been increased and the eligibility requirements have been eased in order to attract a broader base of students. Each scholarship has four

see [Scholarship] page 7

## Campus Parking Lots Renovated

By TAMMY FUNICELLO  
STAFF WRITER

Parking lots around campus will be closed throughout the next year due to the construction of the new Maintenance and Operations Building in parking lot D. There are a total of 4,000 spots on campus but less than 100 of them will be closed, according to Vice President of Administration Tom Jacobsmeyer.

"We hope that people will be patient," said Jacobsmeyer.

"There will be different parking lots closed off and on over the next five years."

The south end of parking lot D was the first lot closed April 14 and will be inaccessible until spring 2006 to allow the construction crew a place to put their supplies. A portion of that lot will be closed indefinitely because that is the site of the future building that will be used for shops, offices, the Sheriff's Department, and the

see [Parking] page 7

### 1st PLACE ON-THE-SPOT NEWS PHOTO



SEVAN GHAZARYAN / VALLEY STAR

**SACRAMENTO COP TAILS** - Mike Marando, public affairs officer with the California Office of Traffic Safety, points out a non-alcoholic beverage that will be served in restaurants nationwide.

see [Valley Star Shines] page 2



## NEWS REEL

### LIVE STRONG AND RETIRE:

Lance Armstrong announced that he will officially retire this year. His last competition will be an attempt to win his record seventh Tour de France.

### PAROLLING THE AIRWAVES:

The ever buoyant Martha Stewart announced a collaboration with Sirius Satellite Radio. Her new radio show will run 24-hours and offer a variety of tips Stewart is known for.

### EDUCATORS UNITE:

Graduate student teachers at Yale and Columbia have launched a strike this week to convince the Bush administration that they are a union. Many classes have already either been cancelled or moved off-campus.

### BOMBER GUILT:

Eric Rudolph plead guilty to four separate bombings last week, appearing at first unemotional and later with growing pride. He faces a sentence of four consecutive life terms.

### PAPAL VOTE:

115 Roman Catholic cardinals from 52 countries entered their conclave on Monday. Onlookers in St. Peter's square wait patiently for the signal of white smoke, which will indicate that a new pope has been chosen.

## CAMPUS EYE

### FINE ARTS FESTIVAL:

Friday, April 22  
\$2 Donation for Tsunami Relief  
Mainstage Theatre at 7 p.m.  
For more info call: Theresa Chavez (818) 947-2708

### STARS WORKSHOP:

Friday, April 22  
The STARS workshop on information competency will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Fireside room.

### WOMEN IN EDUCATION:

Wednesday, April 27  
The 4th Annual Los Angeles Valley College Women in Education Celebration is 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. in the Fireside room. Please submit a nomination for this award.

### ARMENIAN GENOCIDE:

Monday, April 25  
The Armenian Genocide event, organized by the ASU, will be held in Monarch Square from 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m.

## THINK TRANSFER

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
CONTACT THE CAREER  
TRANSFER CENTER AT  
(818) 947-2646

### CAREER PLANNING WORKSHOPS:

Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. and  
Thursdays at 1 p.m. at  
Administration 126.

### SPECIAL EVENTS:

**UCLA Stomp Conference**  
Friday, April 29, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Information and sign-up in the  
Career/Transfer center

### CAREER/ TRANSFER CENTER REPRESENTATIVE VISITS:

UCs in Administration 126  
**UCLA** Wednesday, April 20, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
**CSUs** in Adm. 126  
**CSUN** Monday, April 25, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., Tuesday, April 26, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.,

**Cal State LA** Thursday, April 21, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., Tuesday, April 26, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

### PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES:

**University of West Los Angeles**  
Thursday, April 21, 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

# New Book Chronicles Valley's History in Photos

By LAGINA PHILLIPS  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

A new book, "55 Years at Los Angeles Valley College: A Photo Retrospective," attempts to chronicle the important people and events that have helped shape the campus.

I am very proud to have played a part in bringing these pictures together for this fine history book," said journalism instructor Roger Graham.

The 282-page history book can be purchased through the Patrons Association for \$40 and plans are to make it available at the campus bookstore. The money will go back to the association to fund and create student scholarships, according to Raul Castillo of the Patrons Association.

Some highlights caught on film include the changing of the

name from Valley Junior College to Valley College in 1956. The book's first photograph shows six members of the DuPlessis family, who owned a farm on the land where the college now stands. The book also features numerous sports photographs with uniforms from each era, including a 1964 photograph of actor Tom Selleck playing for the Monarchs' basketball team.

Some of the most memorable photographs include the images associated with each decade. The 1950s show Louis Armstrong singing on campus and many photographs of campus construction. The 1960s show student protests and rallies, while the 70s capture visits by Angela Davis and Gov. Ronald Reagan as well as one of the more popular photos in the book, that of a streaker running through Monarch Square

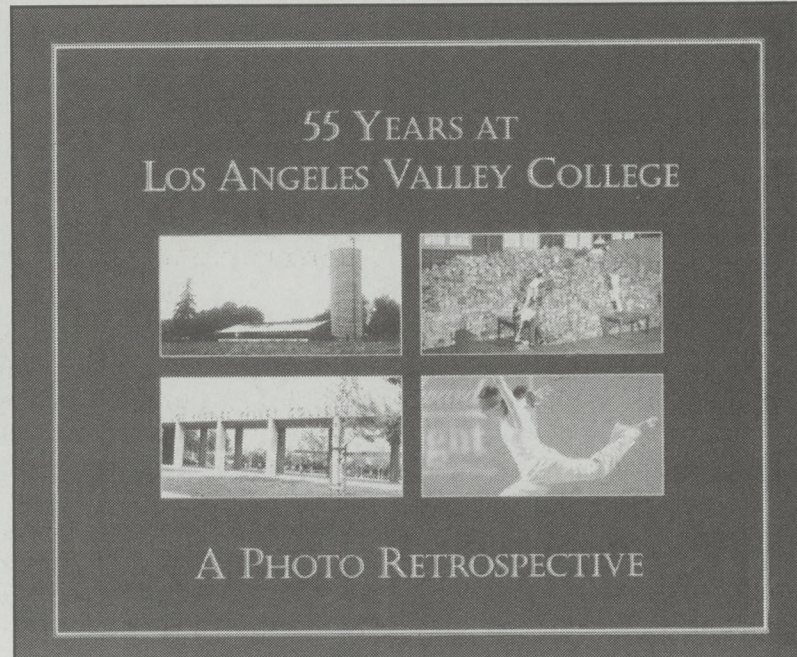
in nothing but his socks and a top hat.

While Valley Star photographers shot the majority of the book's photographs, former Valley Star photo editor Tammy Abbott co-edited and served as curator for the book.

"The time in which this book spans was one of the most pivotal periods in time and some of the most pivotal people of the time were on campus," said Abbott. "I was very fortunate to be able to tell a story through these images."

According to Abbott, the most time-consuming part of getting the project done was selecting the right photographs to represent the school throughout its 55 years.

"As curator, I looked to find compelling images with good composition that told as complete of a story about the college



COURTESY OF PATRONS ASSOCIATION OF LAVC

as possible," she said.

One of the most compelling images might be the photo of

Senator Robert Kennedy speaking on campus June 4, 1968, one day before his assassination.

## Valley Star Shines at Competition

■ Valley College newspaper receives prestigious "General Excellence Award" for fifth consecutive semester.

By LAGINA PHILLIPS  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The Valley Star staff and advisers battled more than 60 schools at the recent Journalism Association of Community Colleges and came home with its fifth consecutive "General Excellence Award."

The staff won more than a dozen awards at the state conference, held April 7 to April 10 in Sacramento. Staff photographer Sevan Ghazaryan won first place for his on-the-spot news photograph and Khadijah Abdullah won first place in the mail-in feature photo category.

"It feels great to come out on top after all my hard work," said Ghazaryan.

The Star also nabbed the first-place, on-the-spot news photo award at last semester's regional conference.

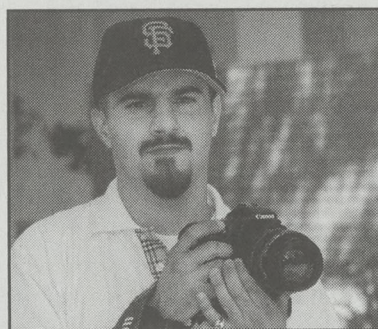
The conference featured competitions for mail-in entries from the fall 2004 semester and 14 categories of on-the-spot contests.

News editor Susan Maltby took home four on-the-spot prizes, including a second-place award for broadcast news writing and fourth-place feature writing.

"It's a great honor to be recognized among my peers," said Maltby.

Design editor Tiffany Farmakis won awards in newspaper design, feature writing and editorial cartoon.

Former photo editor Jorge Gallegos, who left the Star last semester, won honorable mention for his mail-in feature profile on Valley's soccer player Lilibeth Casteneda.



GREG BURMANN / VALLEY STAR

**FIRST PLACE, BABY** - Valley Star staff photographer Sevan Ghazaryan took home the first place on-the-spot news photo award.

## Cheap Gas Near Valley

■ Several local gas stations offer the Valley's lowest-prices at the pumps.



COURTESY OF GOOGLE.COM

## 'Gas'

continued from page 1

right now, they'll think more about gas consumption the next time they buy a car.

"I don't see a lot of people changing their behavior," Milner said. "We're going to scream and holler about high prices but there's not much we could do about it."

Some students might find relief in the MTA's Orange Line, slated for an early-September opening, like Valley student John Yepremyan, 21, who spends as much as \$90 on high-grade gas

to fill the tank of his Lincoln Navigator. He also attends LA Trade Tech downtown, but has opted to take the Metro partly because of gas prices and also to avoid the hassle of city driving.

However, public transportation isn't an option for everyone.

Tony Rojas, a 21-year-old liberal arts major who commutes from Lancaster to the Valley everyday for school and work. He has a tight schedule and depends on his car.

Many local gas station owners say they receive at least 9,000 gallons of gas daily and by the end of each night they find they have

just enough to make it to the next shipment. With America's increasing demand for gas, business isn't predicted to go down any time soon.

Twenty-two-year-old Kellie Amaya is currently earning her teaching credentials while working two jobs, one in a North Hollywood hospital and the other as a nanny in Sherman Oaks. The nanny job requires her to drive a little girl around. While she has never charged her employer for the gas required to fulfill her nanny-duties, she's reconsidering that policy.

### CAMPUS CRIME

## Bookstore Computer Theft

By SUSAN MALTBY  
NEWS EDITOR

### Bookstore Computer Theft

More than \$11,000 worth of Macintosh computer equipment was stolen from the campus bookstore Friday, February 3. Suspects placed a phone order for four Power Mac G5 computers with towers and sent a courier to pick them up with a check for the amount of \$11,686.67. The check was found to be fictitious when it was deposited nearly two weeks later. A bookstore employee called the suspect who agreed to send another check. No new check was received and the suspect's phone numbers were not in service. The suspect wasn't heard from again. A fictitious check complaint was filed with the District Attorney's Office.

### Ongoing Graffiti Grief

Several incidents of graffiti were reported over the past week. Vandals damaged the

men's rooms in the cafeteria, math science and community services buildings. The trash compactor near the corner of Hatteras street and Coldwater Canyon was also damaged.

### Attempted Grand Theft

Thieves attempted to steal a vehicle from lot G between 9 a.m. and noon Wednesday April 13. The victim returned to his vehicle after class to find his driver side door lock had been broken into and the lower dashboard and steering column of his vehicle torn apart. The victim's wallet and credit cards, which were inside the center console, weren't stolen.

### Windows Smashed

While walking his cat at 1:10 a.m., April 14, an informant called campus sheriffs to report the sound of glass breaking. The informant also reported that he had observed a possible suspect wearing a green sweatshirt walking away from bungalow 25. Deputies discovered the north side windows of bungalow

52 and 45 were smashed. No items were missing.

### More Meth on Campus

A suspect was charged with possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine) April 4. After questioning two suspicious suspects parked in a 1968 Ford Mustang in lot G, deputies discovered a zip lock baggie containing an off-white crystalline substance resembling crystal methamphetamine. The passenger was released and the driver was booked at Hollywood Sheriff's station.

### Sexual Battery

A female victim was sexually assaulted while walking to class April 12 at around 6:20 p.m. While walking past bungalow 53, an unknown suspect walked up behind the victim and grabbed her buttocks with both hands and squeezed. Suspect is described a male with a fair complexion and short, spiked hair. He was wearing a navy blue dress shirt. Suspect is still at large.

Valley College Sheriff's Department asks anyone with information about these incidents please call the department at (818) 947-2911.

## Valley College Business Instructor of 28 Years Dies

Family and friends gathered in loving memory Monday, April 18, at Forest Lawn Memorial Park to honor the passing of former Valley College instructor Harry Goldman.

Goldman, who taught in the business department for 28 years, will be sadly missed by colleagues, faculty, staff and students.

### VALLEY STAR STAFF

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF  
LAGINA PHILLIPS

MANAGING EDITOR  
KATHARINE ANDERSON

PHOTO EDITOR  
GREG BURMANN

NEWS EDITOR  
SUSAN MALTBY

DESIGN EDITOR /  
EDITORIAL CARTOONIST  
TIFFANY FARMAKIS

OPINION / COPY EDITOR  
KATHY ARELLANO

VALLEY LIFE EDITOR  
MAGGIE OWNBEY

SPORTS EDITOR  
ZABIE MANSOORY

STAFF WRITERS  
TAMMY FUNICELLO  
ANNA GOLDBERG  
SAM HAHN  
NATAN PILL-KAHAN

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHERS  
SEVAN GHAZARYAN  
SCOTT MITCHELL  
DAN VILLASENOR

ADVERTISING MANAGER  
NANCY KENNEDY

ADVISERS  
BILL DAUBER  
ROD LYONS

TheValleyStar@yahoo.com  
www.LAValleyStar.com  
(818) 947-2576

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# OPINION

3

## ONE WAY OR ANOTHER

EACH WEEK, THE VALLEY STAR EXAMINES AN ISSUE FROM TWO SIDES.  
THIS WEEK: IS REALITY TV HARMLESS OR OFFENSIVE?

■ **Make your voice heard! Participate in the online poll at [www.lavalleystar.com](http://www.lavalleystar.com)**

### Reality TV is Taking Over

■ Reality TV caters to the train-wreck loving public.

BY ALEXANDRA RIGGLE  
SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Even though you can up your cable service to watch something besides "The Swan," "Who Wants to Marry a Millionaire," "The Bachelor," "Wife Swap," "Celebrity Fit Club" and "The Osbournes," you can never escape the increasing presence of this TV phenomenon.

Television networks are making huge profits and spending little of what it did garner to produce decent shows like "E.R." or "Seinfeld."

It's no wonder reality shows cost so little to produce. Put six attractive money- and fame-hungry people on a beach, tell them to win and make sure the camera crew doesn't include the craft service tents in the picture: You've got "Survivor."

I don't know about you, but I am of the opinion that it is undignified to eat reindeer testicles and hundred-year-old eggnog like one poor fool did on a Christmas episode of "Fear Factor."

And what about the girls who are so desperate for attention they are willing to do and say just about anything on camera for 15 minutes of fame. Shows like "America's Next Top Model" only serve to taint the self-image of girls and women and reinforce the belief that the physically ideal woman is an emaciated waif.

"Intervention," a new A&E reality series follows the lives of drug addicts, "taking an unflinching look at the impact of their addictions on their everyday lives." Each airing ends with the friends, family and a professional interventionist urging the addict to get treatment."

A particularly disgusting offering is "Who's Your Daddy?" A woman is introduced to eight men, all claiming to be her father and she has to choose. To keep her real father from revealing himself, the network dangled a \$100,000 bonus.

Haven't we moved beyond the Coliseum's gory Roman games and the townspeople's lust for public hangings? Reality shows are the modern equivalent – a little less brutality and bloodshed, but just as undignified.

Some may argue that it is human nature

to be fascinated by the pain and suffering of others and there's no denying reality television encourages morbid curiosity. Rather than catering to the worst in human nature, why not cater to the best?

This is not to suggest that all of the drama of life be eliminated from television. Life would be pretty dull if everything was perfect, but endorsing self-degradation on television needs to end.

If you really want to see the worst in people and in life all you have to do is watch the evening news.

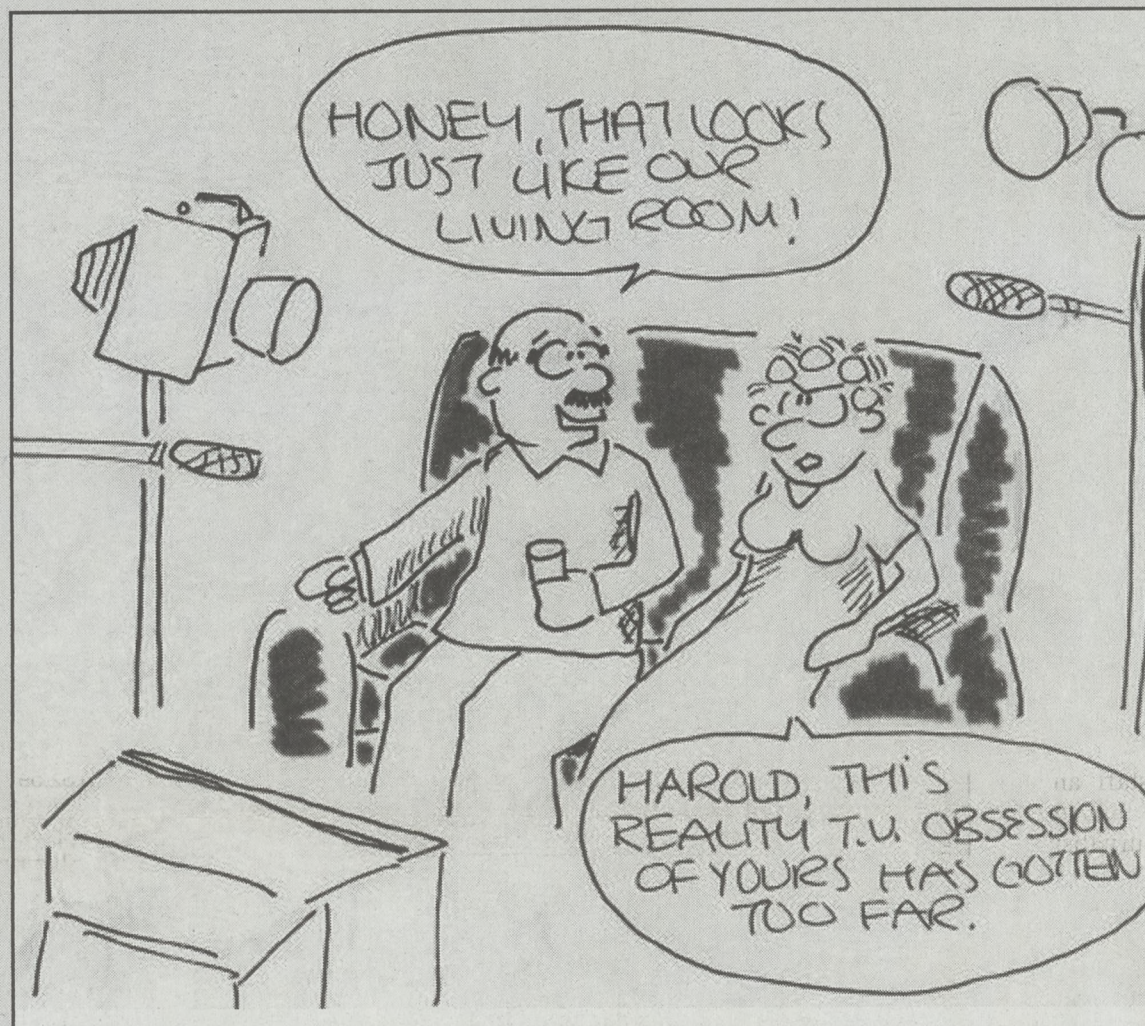


ILLUSTRATION BY TIFFANY FARMAKIS / VALLEY STAR

### Just Can't Get Enough Reality TV

■ We are ready for all reality television all the time.

BY HOLLY DARE  
SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Reality TV makes for great watching. It's so popular that Fox network will be launching an all-reality-all-the-time network next month.

To the networks, reality shows are a great investment with low production costs and a potentially big payoff. Network programmers love making cheap shows. Reality shows require little in terms of actual production. No high-priced sets, no over-priced stars, no make-up or wardrobe people. They often don't even require much in the way of a shooting

crew: a few cameramen and a sound guy are really all that are needed. And, they are shot on videotape unlike most one-hour dramas or quality sitcoms which are shot on costly film.

There are no writers to pay either. Most writers probably couldn't dream this stuff up, with truth being stranger than fiction.

Because the 'bottom line is God in Hollywood, these shows are relatively low-risk. If it doesn't work, the networks haven't invested much. They simply walk away and create a new reality.

Reality shows allow viewers to face their fears vicariously. Some see this as a bonus. Afraid of bugs crawling over your body or eating animal brains? Watch "Fear Factor." Ever wonder what it's like to live with your total opposite? Watch "Strange Love." Want to know what it's like to do stupid stunts? Try "Jackass" or "Knievel's Wild Ride." Have a fantasy of living life as a bounty hunter? "Dog the Bounty Hunter" is for you.

And if you want to figure out if you can be lost and actually survive on a desert island, there is the granddaddy of them all - still going strong - "Survivor."

By watching others in seemingly life-threatening situations, the viewer imagines himself in the driver's seat. He faces his fear, gets an exhilarating high from watching and tunes in week after week, guaranteeing that the network profits.

Viewers that don't identify with that philosophy will take comfort in knowing that there's always someone out there with worse problems. Just take a look at "Dr. Phil" and all the sad, pathetic people who confess their sins and plead for help. Like a proverbial train wreck, we can't help but watch.

Networks will keep producing such shows and they should. After all, no one's getting hurt.

#### WE'RE NOT PSYCHIC...

TELL US WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND:  
[THEVALLEYSTAR@YAHOO.COM](mailto:THEVALLEYSTAR@YAHOO.COM)

## When Fuel Dries Up, Hydrogen Will be the Way of the Future

■ With record high gas prices and fuel sources expected to dry up withing 30 years, the time has come to make the switch to hydrogen-powered cars.

BY CHELSEA MONAHAN  
SPECIAL TO THE STAR

As is customary, gas prices have increased just in time for the summer driving season. Record per-gallon prices have everyone biting their nails and wondering whether they will be able to take that summer road trip they planned.

Higher fuel prices will force an increase in the price of plane tickets, making air travel too costly.

It's time to think about our best alternative: hydrogen.

The White House and Congress are working together to speed construction of new refineries and spur investment in alternate energy sources. Efforts to improve air quality and increase national energy security through the development of domestic energy sources can be addressed through policies and programs promoting use of alternative fuels such as hydrogen.

With gasoline as the blood-line that keeps America moving, personal vehicles guzzle 65 billion gallons of gasoline and diesel fuel each year and that number is expected to increase by 2.6 percent each year.

The current administration is funding these new refineries but is this enough? Cheap, read-

ily available crude oil will only be available for 30 more years. Then it will become too hard to extract from the ground forcing prices to ratchet up to unacceptable levels. Why invest in something that has already reached its apex and is now sliding into the dusk of irrelevance, when there is a perfectly viable source available now?

#### The transition to a hydrogen-based economy awaits planners and architects to place their landmarks on the map

With the price at the pump expected to average \$2.28 a gallon by September, groups such as the California Fuel Cell Partnership and the National Hydrogen Association agree now is the time to make the switch to hydrogen-powered economy. Fuel cells, which operate on natural gas, generate power electrochemically, with virtually none of the pollutants associated with traditional fossil-fuel power plants.

Ultra-clean power gen-

erators meet or exceed the most stringent air quality standards in the nation, utilize currently available fuels, provide 24/7 power and an important link to the future hydrogen economy. This unit is so clean it can operate with no impact on air quality and it uses half the fuel because it is twice as efficient as comparable power plants.

California is pioneering this new energy source with the Hydrogen Highway Network, an initiative that combines the efforts of industry and government to develop the state's infrastructure, research and market for hydrogen cars. The hydrogen highway, built by a public and private partnership, will be completed in 2010.

While hydrogen is not freely available and it takes energy to produce it in a form that can be used in automobiles, automakers have not let that stop them from using this as an alternative energy source. Honda currently has 14 fuel-cell powered vehicles operating in the United States, including 10 in California. ChevronTexaco Technology Ventures LLC, a subsidiary of ChevronTexaco Corporation, unveiled its first Chevron Hydrogen Energy Station at the Hyundai-Kia America Technical Center in Chino, California in 2001.

The January 2005 Los

Angeles Auto Show was a great example of the imminence of hydrogen. BMW has a hydrogen-powered option, Honda has three fuel-cell vehicles, Hyundai has two and GM unveiled its new H2H – the hydrogen-powered Hummer – an experimental version of the Hummer H2 SUT.

The main exhaust is simply water vapor. Created as part of GM's company-wide hydrogen initiative, the H2H will serve as a learning tool to help engineers, designers, educators and students discover how to improve hydrogen technology and to encourage hydrogen's proliferation as a new and clean energy source for transportation. This big, bold, blue H2H illustrates the vision of a hydrogen-powered future like nothing else. "The Los Angeles Auto Show has the cleanest vehicles ever," said Alliance President and CEO Fred Webber. "These aren't just concept cars. We're talking about ultra-clean vehicles that are for sale on dealer lots everywhere right now."

Hydrogen-powered cars are on the roads and hydrogen infrastructure projects are on the drawing boards. The transition to a hydrogen-based economy awaits planners and architects to place their landmarks on the map.

## Campus View

What do you think of reality TV?

PHOTOS BY DANIEL VILLASENOR  
TEXT BY ZABIE MANSOORY

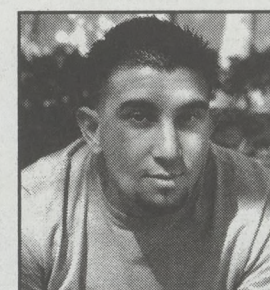


"They are great because they are real, at least its what I think."

-Ashley Epps  
Undecided major

"They are stupid but funny. It is funny to see that celebrities live a normal life too."

-Jessica Riveras  
Nursing major



"They are cool to watch. You wonder if you could do the same or not."

-Boris Osibo  
Physical Therapy major

"They are entertaining, watching the things people would do to get money though they are told what to do"

-Silvia Morre  
Philosophy major





WEDNESDAY  
TO TUESDAY

## Wednesday, April 20

**Artist Day**  
Artist Film Festival  
5-days of activist cinema  
April 20 to 24  
Egyptian Theatre  
For times & prices: www.tix.com  
(310) 712-1222

**Indian Film Festival**  
ArcLight Cinemas  
Hollywood  
6360 Sunset Blvd. at  
Vine, Hollywood 90028  
323-464-4226

## Thursday, April 21

Diana Zaslove, soprano;  
Josephine Liu, viola;  
Nora Chang, piano  
11:30a.m.  
Music Recital Hall  
Admission if free

## Friday, April 22

Film Release  
The Interpreter  
Dir: Sydney Pollack  
Nicole Kidman, Sean Penn  
Drama/Thriller

**Laura Pausini**  
8p.m.  
Wiltern LG  
\$55-\$95

## Saturday, April 23

**Annual Dog Faire and  
Pet Adoption**  
9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the  
Sepulveda-Basin Dog  
Park  
17550 Victory  
Boulevard, 91406  
818-756-8190

**Renaissance Pleasure  
Fair of Southern  
California**  
10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at  
the Santa Fe Dam  
Recreation Area  
15501 Arrow Hwy  
Irwindale, 91706  
626-334-1065

**Highlights From a  
Grand Irish Variety  
Concert**  
7:30 p.m.  
Music Recital Hall  
\$18.00—Tickets avail-  
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Valley Student Claims Top Prize at  
Showcase Awards

■ Valley's Fourth Annual Showcase Awards joins students from three area colleges for a night of extraordinary performances.

BY LAGINA PHILLIPS  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Chatter, jokes and laughter filled Valley College's Mainstage Theater make-up room 20 minutes before the show was to begin.

"We're not acting much like competitors," said Pierce College theater major Kia Herman. "But then again, I've never been a competitive person."

Herman joined students from Moorpark, Pierce and Valley colleges, performing at the fourth annual Showcase Awards, Saturday night, sponsored by Warner Bros.

After 16 acts competed for placement in four categories, the judges, The Arts Council of Valley College, had a tough choice ahead.

Herman and scene partner Julie Bermel won in the theater category for their performance of a scene from "Wicked," while Moorpark students topped two of the categories: Gavin Henry and Jessica Waltz won in the dance category and Junko Taylor won in the instrumental music category for her piano solo, and Valley student Sandra Booker won in the vocal music category.



DAN VILLASENOR / VALLEY STAR PHOTO ILLUSTRATION  
**ENCORE! ENCORE!** - The 2004 Showcase Awards winner and former Valley student, Michael Camp delivers an encore performance at Saturday's 4th Annual Showcase Awards, sponsored by Warner Bros.



DAN VILLASENOR AND GREG BURMANN / VALLEY STAR PHOTO ILLUSTRATION  
**CLAIMING THE TOP PRIZE** - Sheriff Lee Baca presented Valley student Sandra Booker with the prestigious "Sheriff Lee Baca's Outstanding Performer Award" at the 4th Annual Showcase Awards, Saturday.

After the finalists in each category were announced, judges had an even tougher decision: which of the four acts would win the highest honor of the night, Sheriff Lee Baca's Outstanding Performance Award.

Baca presented Booker, the only Valley finalist, with the top award.

"I hope to go on and do great things," said a very excited Booker, crediting Reed, Richard Brossman and Dr. Bruce Thomas of the Transfer Alliance Program. "I'm so grateful to have so many supportive people here at Valley."

The 200-plus member audience was littered with familiar faces, including actor Hector Elizondo, Senior Vice-Chancellor of the Los Angeles Community College District Darroch "Rocky" Young, Los Angeles Sheriff Lee Baca and master of ceremonies Ed Begley Jr.

Valley's Dean of arts, Dennis Reed, who President Tyree Wieder credits for making the Showcase Awards happen, said "My biggest desire for the night was that every performer would shine. And that has happened."

## Luck of the Irish

BY MAGGIE OWNBEY  
VALLEY LIFE EDITOR

Luckier than finding a four-leaf clover is discovering a four-part concert series that brings Ireland a wee bit closer to Valley College, beginning this Saturday, April 23, at Valley's Music Recital Hall.

"[We're] delighted to be involved at the community level, bringing the best of Irish artists to Valley," said Margaret O'Carroll, owner of Kerry Records, the company producing the series. "I look forward to bringing much more music to the campus from an Irish point of view in the autumn."

The first in the series is an evening of music, dance and storytelling with a Celtic fiddler, Uilleann piper and Irish actors and

see [Irish] page 6

## ARTIVIST FESTIVAL

The 2nd Annual Artist Film Festival kicks off today. Los Angeles Mayor James Hahn has declared April 20 Artist Day. The five-day festival, which is the first international activist film festival, addresses Children's Advocacy, Animal Rights, and Environmental Preservation through the film, art, and music of international artists. In its second year, the festival brings 70 films to 27 different countries, catching the eyes of many celebrities and activists, including this year's honorees James Cromwell and Mira Sorvino. The 2005 Artist Awards will also honor charities for outstanding work, including Amnesty International, Global Green, Farm Sanctuary and Prevent Child Abuse America. For more information, go to [artivistfilmfestival.org](http://artivistfilmfestival.org)

Valley's ASU Sponsors  
Tsunami Relief Efforts

BY KATHY ARELLANO  
OPINION EDITOR

Asking for donations to help December's tsunami-affected areas may sound like old news, but consider this: if you multiply the number of students enrolled at Valley College by 16, you will get the approximate number of dead and missing in Indonesia alone; add to this the one million displaced persons and it's clear that relief efforts will be needed for decades to come in this region of the world that is roughly the spatial equivalent to the continental United States.

In a collaborative effort, Valley's Associated Student Union Inter-Club Council and the International Students Club have embarked on what they hope will be a campus-wide, semester-spanning program to raise money for the disaster-ravaged areas.

A recent Club Day boasted the launch of this ambitious proj-

ect, with ASU representatives inviting passers-by to deposit money into the cheerfully decorated collection box. While the final method of gathering funds has yet to be determined and approved, ASU Executive Council Vice President Jessie Salas said that the subject will be discussed at the May Faculty Senate meeting, where she and other ASU representatives will outline their plan to enlist the help of teachers, advisers and other Valley staff members in getting the word out.

"So many students have yet to contribute," Salas said. "We want to harness the strength of the student body and we need [their] help."

The idea to participate in the relief effort has been in the works for months, according to International Student Services Director Syed Khaled Hussain, and will eventually lead to a 'piggyback' involvement with a

much larger non-profit agency, the goal being to funnel 100 percent of the monies raised to a specific area.

"The members of the International Students Club and their president, business major and Indian native Vikrant Bhagat, have done a tremendous amount of work to get this project going," Hussain said.

The plan is to generate an across-campus interest in working together to raise money with the ultimate goal of being able to enable the repair or replacement of a number of homes within the disaster zone.

"We're thinking of adopting a village," Salas said, "but where do we start?"

If each member of the 18,000-strong Valley student body donated one dollar, there would be enough funds generated to purchase eight fiber boats, eight fishing nets and 14 houses.



National Report

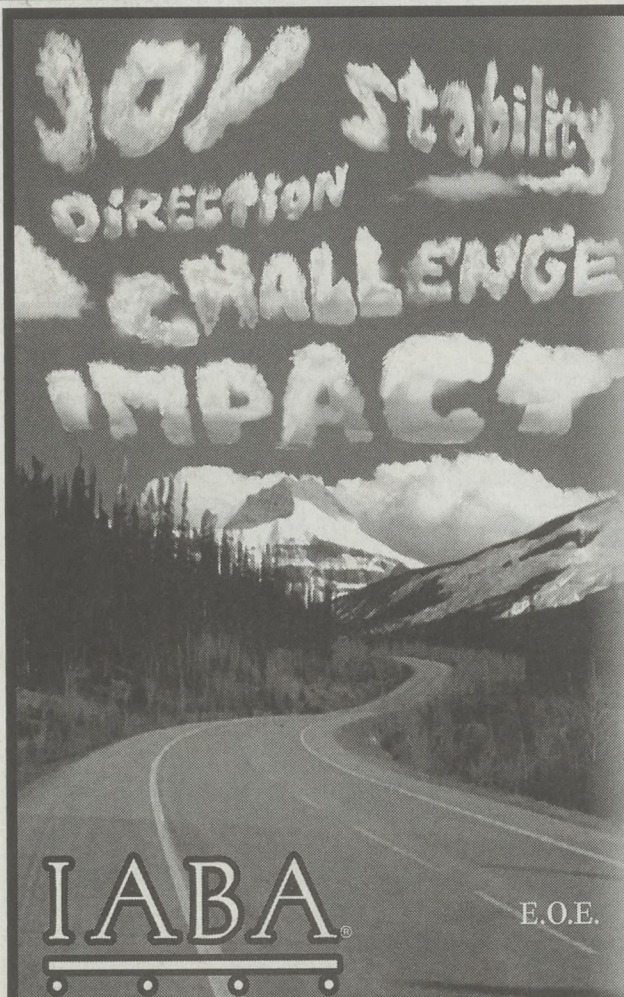
# 17,000 killed in senseless act

Authorities search for answers on a day of sadness

A nation is in mourning as thousands were suddenly killed yesterday all across the country by people who had been drinking and driving. Traffic was backed up in all 50 states making it difficult for emergency vehicles to reach the victims. Hospitals in every city remain overwhelmed with thousands of critically injured patients.

simply are not enough resources to meet the demands of this catastrophe. The president spoke early this morning at an emergency press conference expressing his condolences to the friends and families of those who were lost. One official in DeBeau County called this "the most devastating moment in American history." In some places, entire families were killed, leaving many to wonder how something like this could happen in our country today. In a show of support, long lines of volunteers have formed at the lines of blood and fire enters to

If this were today's headline, would you notice? Last year, drinking and driving actually did kill about 17,000 people. It injured half a million more. But because it happened over a year rather than in a single day, it's not always front-page news. If you drink, find a safe way home. And do your part to keep drunk driving out of the headlines.



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Stop by and talk to your team about your healthcare needs and how the VA can help. Bring another veteran with you and help us get the word out about this important visit.

April 27-28, 2005

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

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Thanks for your service to our country!

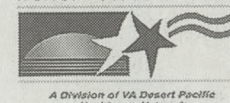
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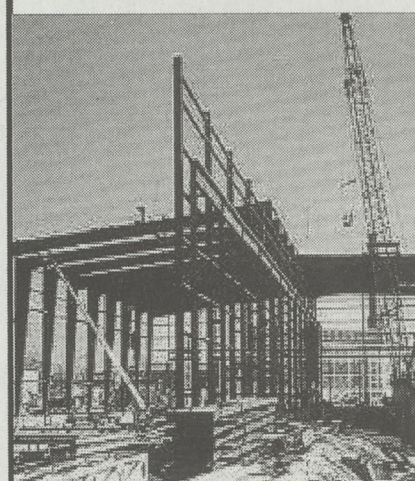
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# News

7

## 'Scholarship'

continued from page 1

awards of \$500 each, totaling \$4,000 up for grabs, an increase of \$800 from last year's awards.

The number of units completed at Valley has been lowered from

40 to 30, with a GPA of 3.0 or higher. Of those units, 12 must stem from the HHLPS department and have been taken with at least two different instructors with a minimum GPA of 3.5. In addition, a student must submit a transcript copy, a self-evaluation sheet and recommendations from two different instructors within the HHLPS

department. A third recommendation from an instructor outside the HHLPS department is suggested, but optional.

The applications include the recommendation forms for instructors and the self-evaluation sheet and are available in Campus Center 252. The deadline for applications is April 29.

## 'Parking'

continued from page 1

Plant Facilities Office.

"It looks like this is going to take a lot of spots up," said 24-year-old nursing major Glendy Orellana. "It is going

to be hard to find a parking spot in this lot."

When construction on the school is completed in approximately 2008, additional spots will open on the south end of campus. While lot D is closed, students can park in the C lot or in the

northern section of lot D.

"It's going to be harder to park," said 20-year-old business major Kenny Cobos. "I am going to have to get here 20 minutes earlier and I'm already getting here early to find a spot."

## 'ASU'

continued from page 1

"I think that it was the final action of this board after the vote of no confidence," said ASU advisor Sherri Rodriguez. "At a meeting he promised to listen more and the very next day he threatened the vice president and the commissioner of athletics. We were hoping to see a change and it did not occur. This recall was the result of not

seeing the change."

Last month the executive board voted 7-1-2 to request Bagramian's resignation. At the time he stated he would most likely not resign.

As a result of the recall, Salas will take over as president for the remainder of the semester.

"Everything worked out for the good of the group," Salas said.

The board's next meeting is April 6 at 12:45 p.m. in Campus Center 104.

## 'Irish'

continued from page 4

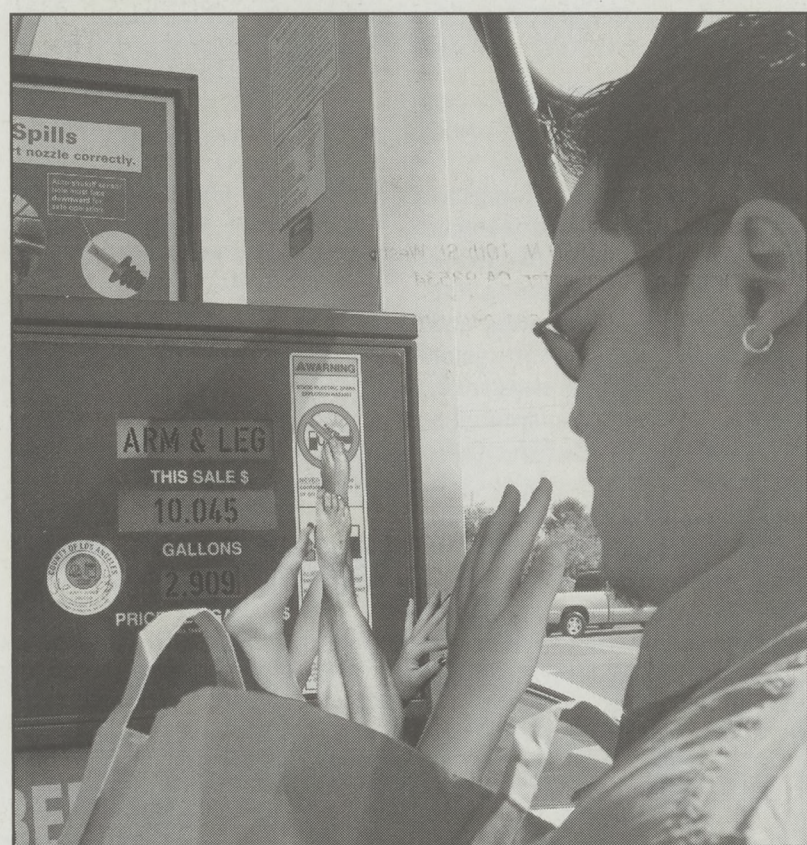
dancers, including Kathleen Keane, Ken O'Malley and Thomas MacGreevy.

The company is fast becoming an integral part of Irish music in America, supporting the performance, recording and preservation of Ireland's priceless music and spoken arts history, according to O'Carroll, who is a

native of Tralee, County Kerry, Ireland.

"I always look for quality," said O'Carroll. "I work with artists who are highly gifted, have great passion for their work, work hard and who work intuitively with their gifts."

To learn more about Kerry Records, featured artists and upcoming events go online to [kerryrecords.com](http://kerryrecords.com). The series is scheduled at 7:30 p.m. April 23, April 30, May 7 and May 28.



GREG BURMANN / VALLEY STAR PHOTO ILLUSTRATION  
COSTING AN ARM AND A LEG - Gas prices on the rise.

## California State University Northridge

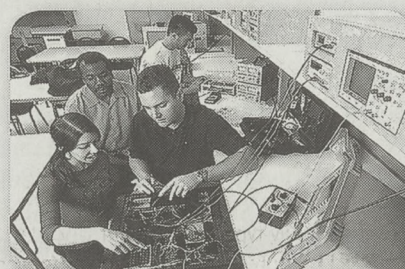
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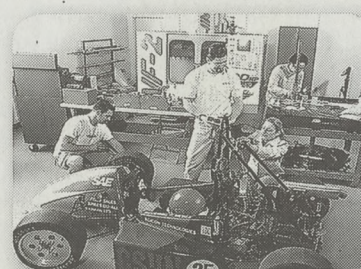
**M**y degree from Northridge in Industrial and Systems Engineering has been the foundation of my success as an engineer, CEO and Entrepreneur. I could not have done it without CSUN. Mory Ejabat ('76, '79) Co-Founder, Chairman & CEO Zhong Technologies



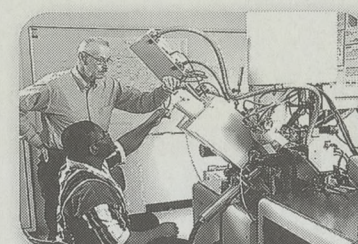
**O**ne of the most important tools to be successful in our technologically advancing world is an excellent engineering foundation. The outstanding program at CSUN afforded me the opportunity to develop my engineering skills which became the foundation that allowed me to contribute to our nation's most exciting endeavor: Space Exploration. Scott "Doc" Horowitz ('78) Astronaut, Director, Space Transportation & Exploration ATK Thiokol Inc.



**M**y experience with the Co-Op students and the graduates of CSUN has been outstanding. Across the board, the students have demonstrated maturity, perseverance, knowledge, and enthusiasm. They all have made significant contributions. Tom Sundling President & CEO I.T.S. Corporation



**W**e have five graduates and three interns from CSUN at our plant, doing engineering work in electronics and mechanics. They are all, without exception, very competent and have contributed significantly to the company's growth. Dimitri S. Dimitri Founder & President Delta Tau Data Systems, Inc.

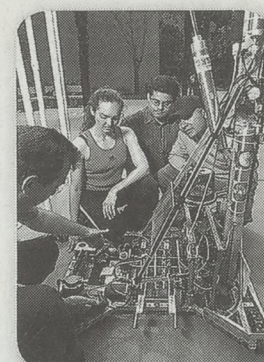


**M**y engineering education at CSUN provided the knowledge and resources required to develop unique solutions to real world needs in our High Technology Businesses. Sheldon Malchicoff ('78) Founder, Chairman & CEO Data Exchange Corporation

**F**rom my first job interview, where I was asked to go to the blackboard and solve a fluids problem, to my first Board of Directors Meeting where we discussed a product development strategy; this outstanding Engineering Program gave me the tools I needed. Robert Behl ('69) Medical Device Entrepreneur Founder & CEO Percutaneous Systems, Inc.



**T**he CSUN alumni here at Shell Solar are invaluable to our company's success. They have excellent hands-on knowledge, coupled with the engineering theory on how things work. They are good team members and are hard workers. We are lucky to have them. Theresa Jester ('79) Senior Director, Engineering & Operations Shell Solar Industries, LLP



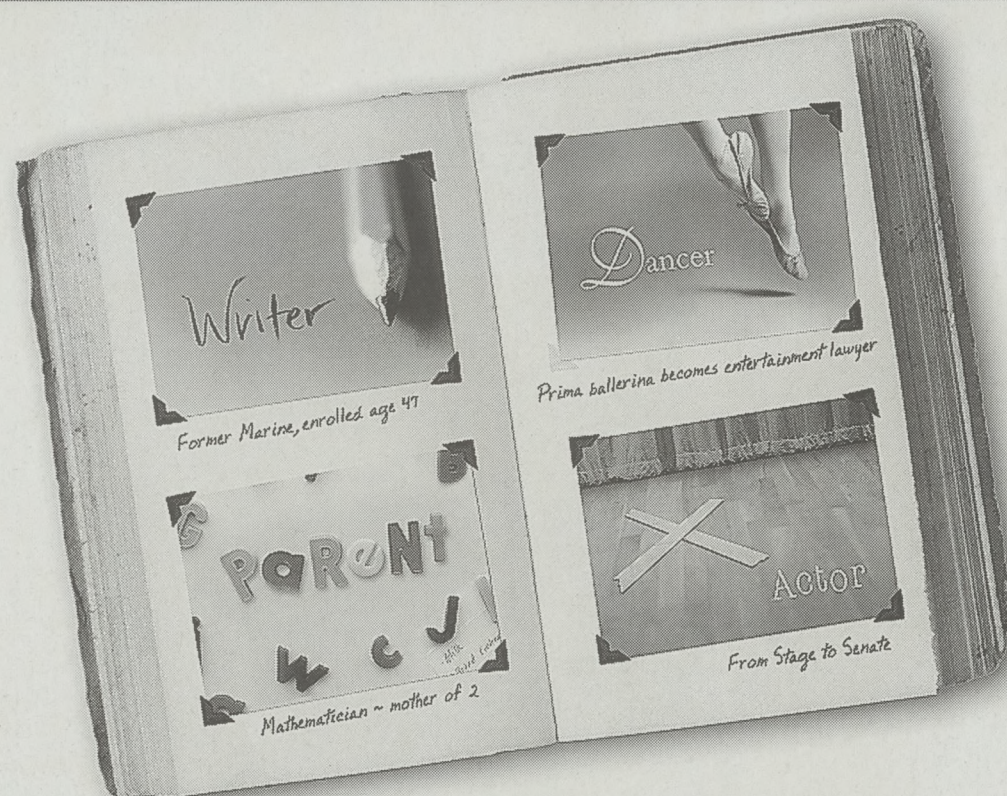
**I** have had the opportunity of working with and supervising three CSUN engineering students from the time they were Interns/Co-Ops to full employees. These students were well-prepared, highly motivated, and well-rounded as individuals. Because these students were quite knowledgeable and had such good work ethics, my company is expanding its use of interns and Co-Ops from Cal State Northridge. Gary Mallaey Program Director, Fiber Optic Gyro Programs Navigation Systems Division Northrop Grumman Corporation

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Designed by Carolina Franco-Alvarez

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## Stars of the Week

### Softball

**Amanda Salazar** *Pitcher*  
She pitched five innings and struck out three batters and gave up no earned runs.

**Lorena Arreguin** *Catcher*  
She went 3 for 4 with two RBIs and scored three runs at Saturday's game.

**Breckon Broner** *Out Fielder*  
She went 1 for 3 with a triple and scored a run.

**Barbara Reguengo** *3rd Baseman*  
She went 3 for 4 and scored three runs with a double and triple.

### Swimming

**Matt Alberti**  
He won all the three events that he competed in, including the 200-meter medley, 400-meter medley and 500-meter free style.

### Valentine Alberti

She won two out of three events she competed in, including the 100-meter free style and 200-meter free style.

### Baseball

**Eddie Baeza** *Pitcher*  
He pitched eight innings, struck out 12 batters and surrendered one earned run.

**Daniel Larsen** *Pinch Hitter*  
He had a RBI single in the top the 8th inning.

**Luis Parra** *3rd Baseman*  
He went 3 for 4, three doubles and had a RBI.

**Jorge Olmedo** *Pitcher*  
He earned the win in Thursday's game over the Bakersfield Renegades.

### Track & Field

**Antoinette Burton**  
She threw the shot put 30 feet and 3 inches to qualify for WSC Finals on Saturday.

**Richard Goldberg**  
He qualified for the 5,000 meter for WSC finals on Saturday.

**Gladys Nyoth**  
She jumped 16 feet and 4 inches to qualify in the long jump for the WSC finals.

## LAVC SCORES

**Basball vs. Bakersfield**  
(W 6-1) 4/14/05  
Baseball Record: 16-13, 11-5 (conference)

**Softball vs. Santa Monica**  
(W 8-2) 4/14/05  
Softball Record: 22-8-1, 13-7 (conference)

**Swimming vs. Pierce Men**  
(W 142-77) 4/15/05  
Softball Record: 3-3 (conference)

**Swimming vs. Pierce Women**  
(T 103-103) 4/15/05  
Softball Record: 1-4-1 (conference)

## LAVC SCHEDULE

**Wednesday 4/20/05**  
No Scheduled Games

**Thursday 4/21/05**  
Softball vs. Mission 5 p.m.  
Baseball vs. Glendale 2:30 p.m.

**Friday 4/22/05**  
No Scheduled Games

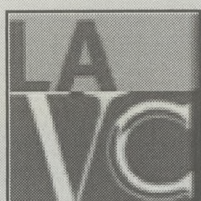
**Saturday 4/23/05**  
Baseball vs Pierce 1:00 p.m.  
Track & Field @ Bakersfield WSC Finals  
TBA

**Sunday 4/24/05**  
Softball @ Santa Barbara Tournament  
TBA

**Monday 4/25/05**  
No Scheduled Games

**Tuesday 4/26/05**  
Softball @ Glendale 2:30 p.m.  
Baseball @ Pierce 2:30 p.m.

**Wednesday 4/27/05**  
No Scheduled Games



For more sport photos  
and stories, please visit  
[www.lavalleystar.com](http://www.lavalleystar.com)

# Valley College Swim Team Victorious in Final Meet

■ The Monarchs men's swim team defeated the Pierce Brahmas 142-77 on Friday, while the Lady Monarchs earned a 103-103 tie.



SEVAN GHAZARYAN/VALLEY STAR

**BIG SPLASH-** Valley College swimmer Matt Alberti smokes the competition and leads the men's team to a 142-77 victory over the Pierce College Brahmas Friday during the conference meet.

BY HAHNS CARDENAS  
SPECIAL TO THE STAR

The Monarchs' swim team defeated the Pierce College Brahmas 142-77 in the final meet of the season and the Lady Monarchs earned a 103-103 tie on Friday.

With Valley winning 16 out of 26 competitions, the Monarchs' overall season record improved to 3-3 while the lady's season ended at 1-4-1.

"They all did great," men's coach Jim McMillan said. "It's a symbol of all the hard work they have put into it this season.

This gives us good momentum to move forward and keep us motivated."

McMillan added his praise for diver Ousep Karchikyan, who earned his first win in 3-meter diving.

While the men's victory was obvious early in the meet, the women's results remained hazy throughout the event, partly due to an ear injury swimmer Oksana Samokish suffered during the 1-meter diving competition.

Samokish returned for one more dive after the injury, but was unable to compete and later left to receive medical atten-

tion.

"We swam outstanding, this was probably our best meet," said women's coach Bill Krauss.

Swimmer Matt Alberti took first place in the 200-meter medley and the 500-meter freestyle, a race he hasn't swam since his sophomore year in high school. Jeff Benzer won first place in both the 200-meter and the 100-meter. Chris Garcia was victorious in the 200-meter fly stroke, while Preston Vowels won the 50-meter and Eddie Tsivillansky blew away the competition in the 200-meter breaststroke.

"We've been practicing

mornings and afternoons every day," said Matt Alberti. "It could get very tiring in the end."

For the Lady Monarchs Valentine Alberti and Megan Winchell continued to dominate with Alberti winning the 200- and 100- meter races, and Winchell taking the 50-meter and the 100-meter breaststroke. Caitlin Howison also captured a victory in the 1,000-meter free-style race

The Monarchs' swim team will be training for the Western State Championship at Cuesta College April 28-30.

# Lady Monarchs Defeat Santa Monica College Softballers

■ The Lady Monarchs defeated the Santa Monica Corsairs 12-4 with the outstanding performance by pitcher Amanda Salazar.

BY ZABIE MANSOORY  
SPORTS EDITOR

The Lady Monarchs so dominated the Santa Monica Corsairs Saturday that the game was called on the mercy rule.

The victory improves Valley's overall record to 24-8-1 and the conference record to 13-7. The Lady Monarchs sit in third place in the Western State Conference behind College of the Canyons and Bakersfield College.

"You can't sit and sulk," said star pitcher Amanda Salazar about the team's upcoming games. "We have to give all we got."

Salazar gave her team a lot Saturday after a one-game rest due to an elbow injury. The sophomore allowed no earned runs, struck out three batters and earned the complete-game victory.

Salazar's double helped the Monarchs score three runs in the first inning and then saw her teammates take over with the bats.

Third baseman Barbara Reguengo and catcher Lorena Arreguin each had solid days at the plate. Reguengo went 3 for 4 with two RBIs and Arreguin batted an impressive 3 for 4,

including a double and a triple as she scored three runs.

"Everybody was hitting today," said outfielder Breckon Broner who went 1 for 3 with a run-scoring triple. "Everybody was doing their job and that helps a lot."

Adding to the one-run lead, Valley scored two runs in the second inning, holding a three-run lead in the bottom of second.

The Corsairs shut out the Monarchs' bats in the third inning, and Santa Monica scored two runs in the bottom of third. The rally cut Valley's lead to one run.

The Monarchs added another four runs in the top of the fourth inning and shut down the Corsairs to finish the game with the eight-run victory due to the mercy rule.

The mercy rule states that if a team is losing by five runs in the bottom of the fifth inning, the game will be called.

The win over Santa Monica gives the Monarchs more confidence as they prepare to compete in the Regional Championship May 7-8.

The Lady Monarchs will host the Mission College Eagles Thursday at 5 p.m.



Greg Burmann / Valley Star

**HELPING THE CAUSE -** Valley's Breckon Broner drives in a run with her triple in the fourth inning to help the Monarchs defeat Santa Monica College 12-4 Saturday.

## COMMENTARY

# Valley Baseball Heats Up

BY ZABIE MANSOORY  
SPORTS EDITOR

If all it took was a coaching change to heat things up for the boys of summer, we just wonder why it didn't happen sooner.

The only thing hot about Valley College baseball over the past three years was the weather. In the past three seasons, Valley baseball compiled a 5-98 record. Last year's record was 1-24.

This season, the baseball team has made a 180-degree turn with the hiring of Head Coach Dave Mallas. The new skipper brought in key players and has piloted the Monarchs to first place in the Western State Conference with a 12-5 conference record and 18-13 overall record. The team is also riding a seven game winning streak.

Mallas has won almost everywhere he's played or coached. He won a state championship at Cal State Chico and a won another state championship while playing at Rancho Santiago Community College in 1995.

When Mallas arrived at Valley, he said his long-term goal was to get his team back on the map and make it one of the strongest baseball programs in the state. The Star just likes that the team has already won 17 games more than last year and has moved out of the cold-conference cellar it called home over the past three years. Let's hope the team stays hot.

The Monarch football team also has a new coach in Jimmy Sims. He's noticed the turnaround made by the baseball team and we hopes that Valley football heats up our winter sports, too.

Sims took over for Ron Ponciano who was removed from his coaching position after he held a 12-28 record during his four years as the head coach at Valley.

Sims hired five assistant coaches who have NFL experience.

Let's hope this coaching change also makes the difference.



## SPORTS

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## LAVC Struggles in WSC Prelims at Moorpark College

■ Valley Track and Field had a disappointing meet on Saturday at as only five athletes qualified for the Western State Conference Finals.

BY TAMMY FUNICELLO  
STAFF WRITER

The Monarchs track and field team came home a little disappointed after the conference prelims at Moorpark College Saturday, with very few athletes advancing to conference finals.

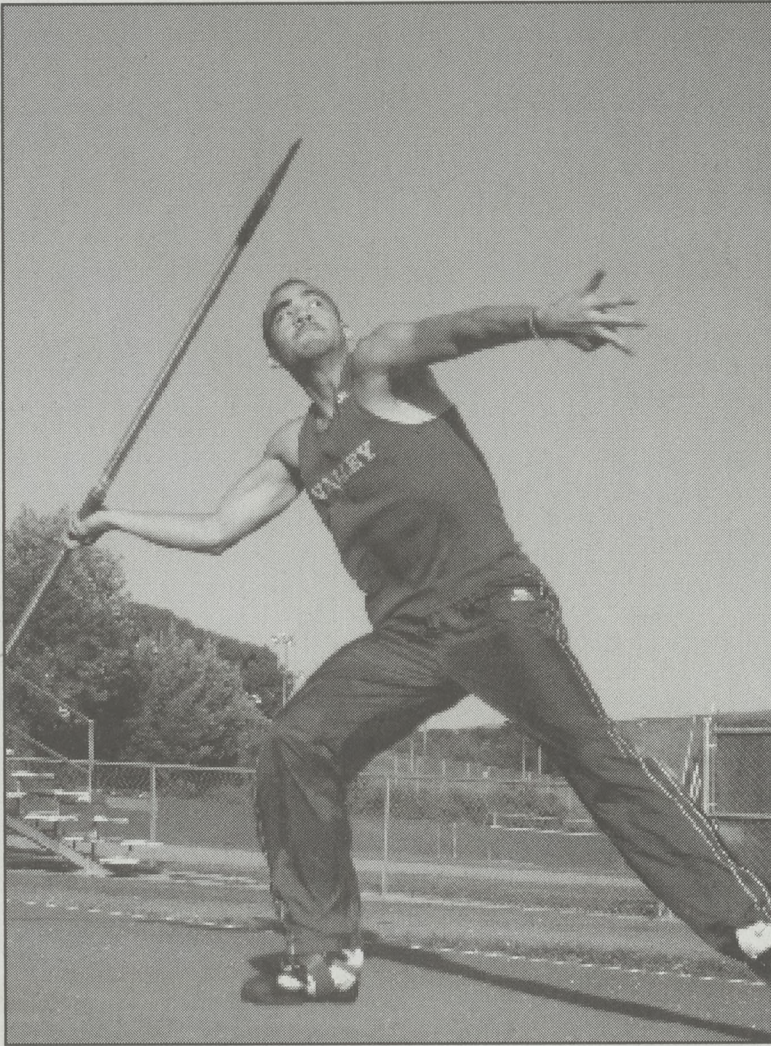
**"This is a high-pressure meet and experience plays a big factor in it."**

"This is a high-pressure meet and experience plays a big factor in it," said women's coach Yannick Allain. "We have a lot of freshman and it is a learning experience for them."

The 13-school competition was not an easy one. The only runners to qualify for the finals were Mike Stotland and Richard Goldberg in the 5000-meter race.

A few more qualified in the field events, including Gladys Nyoth, who qualified in the triple jump and long jump, with a jump of 16'4". Myriam LeMailloux also qualified in the long jump with a jump of 15'4". For the men, Steven Bautista qualified in the javelin with a throw of 154'10" and Dartanian Hightower qualified in the triple jump, with a jump of 42'10".

The athlete of the week for the women was Antoinette Burton who qualified in the shot put with a throw of 30'3" and in the high jump with a



CYNTHIA PERRY / SPECIAL TO THE STAR

**JAV MAN** - Valley's Stephen Bautista qualified to compete in the conference finals in the men's javelin next Saturday.

jump of 5.' The men's athlete of the week was Joseph MC Queen, who although did not qualify, competed hard in the shot put and javelin.

"We are a good dual meet team," said distance coach Bob Macias. "We are much better at that than we are at conference meets because at conference meets there are elite runners and we just don't have that."

Even though the meet did not go as well as hoped, the team still felt good about how they performed this season.

"The heat affected us all, but we are a young team and we did really well," said Stotland.

The team was plagued by injuries this season. Alma Reyes, a top-ranked runner, was not able to participate during part of the second half of the season because of an injury.

Those that did advance will compete in the conference finals April 23 at Bakersfield College with the hope of making all the way to the state finals.

## Valley Defeats Bakersfield, Stakes Claim to First Place

■ The Monarchs baseball sweeps the Bakersfield Renegades to take first place in conference and improved the over all record to 17-12.

BY SAM HAHN  
STAFF WRITER

**BAKERSFIELD** - Valley baseball, riding a seven-game winning streak, snatched first place from Bakersfield as the Monarchs pounded the Renegades 6-1 Saturday.

"We put ourselves in a very good position with this win," said Head Coach Dave Mallas after the Monarchs improved to 11-5 in conference play. "We have a one-game lead in the conference right now and it feels good to be on top."

Looking to make a bold statement after being swept by the Renegades earlier in the season, Valley sent Eddie Baeza to the mound. Baeza didn't disappoint as the sophomore pitcher threw eight solid innings.

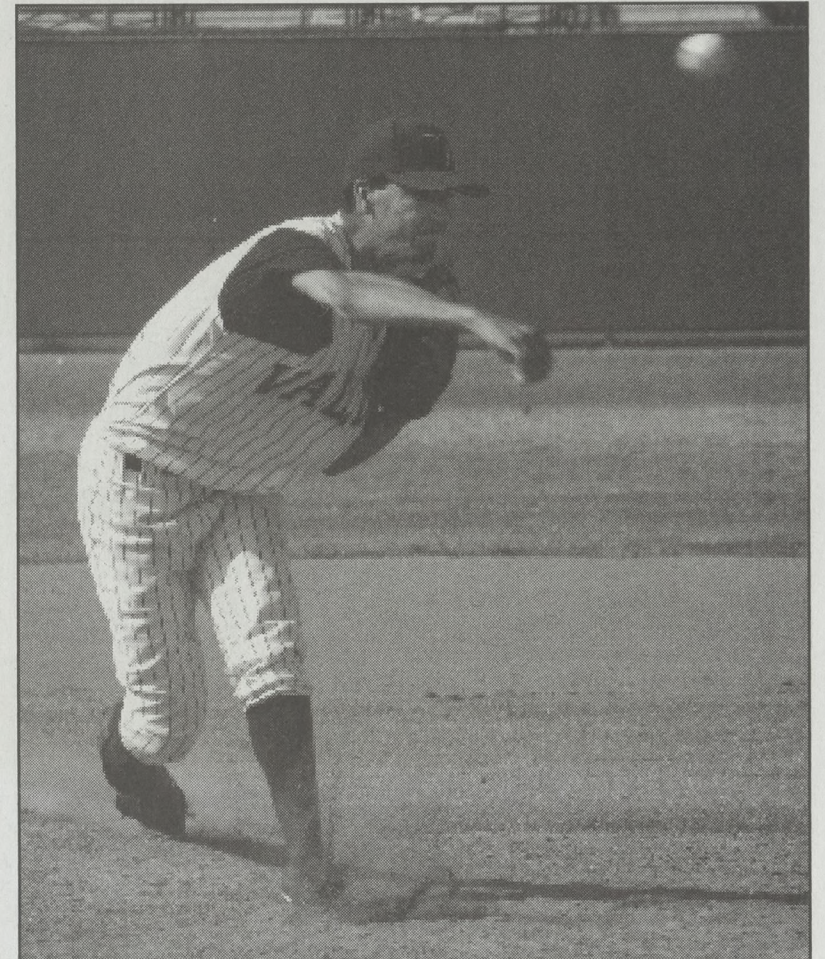
"I felt good today," said Baeza, who struck out 12 batters after allowing one run in the first inning. "It always takes me one or two innings to get warmed up. I settled down after I got a handle on my mechanics."

But it was a different story for Bakersfield pitcher Jacob Wild, who got roughed up for four runs in seven innings.

"We threw our best [pitcher] against [Bakersfield] and they threw their best against us," Mallas said. "Baeza came out on top and showed why he's one of the best today."

After being shut out in the first three innings the Monarchs answered in the fourth inning as catcher Raul Perez scored from third base on a Renegade error. Valley added another run as third baseman Luis Parra scored on a sacrifice fly by shortstop Miguel Gomez to push the lead 2-1.

The Monarchs scored two runs in the eighth inning to



SCOTT MITCHELL / VALLEY STAR

**MAKING EVERY PITCH COUNT** - Valley pitcher Jorge Olmedo has helped the Monarchs go on a seven-game winning streak this season.

increase their lead to 4-1, as Parra scored on a wild pitch from Renegade pitcher Neal Hubman. Right fielder Josh Cliffords scored on an RBI double by pinch hitter Daniel Larsen who batted for second baseman Robert Ninfo.

"I was just trying to get another run in for us," Larsen said. "We needed the run ... and I clutched up at the right time and was successful."

According to Mallas, Larsen came up big for the Monarchs even though he has not played in a couple of games.

Valley struck again in the ninth inning with two runs as Parra's RBI double scored Perez from first while center fielder Derek Walker's RBI single

scored Parra from second.

Even with the offensive onslaught, the Monarchs squandered many opportunities during the game, failing to blow the game open in the seventh inning as the Monarchs failed to score any runs with the bases loaded and no outs.

Sophomore left fielder DJ Lewis stated that while the Monarchs struggled both offensively and defensively early on in the season, he felt the team was coming together at the right time.

"We put ourselves in a position to win the conference," said Mallas. "As long as we continue to be successful, we'll end up on top at the end of the season."

## Lewis Leads the Monarchs by Example

■ Sophomore out-fielder who transfered over from the University of Arizona brings spark to Valley baseball.

SAM HAHN  
STAFF WRITER

If sophomore outfielder DJ Lewis' future professional career mirrors his former Little League life, Lewis would be playing for the New York Yankees, Atlanta Braves, San Francisco Giants and the Los Angeles Dodgers in the same season.

**"My dad signed me up for four, sometimes five different teams."**

"My dad signed me up for four, sometimes five different teams," Lewis said of his Little League days. "When I was young, I didn't know what my dad was doing, but now, I realize that he was just trying to help me become a better player."

The 21-year-old Lewis carries a .358 batting average with 16 RBIs in 16 conference games for the Monarchs this season. The former San Fernando High standout transferred to Valley College from the University of Arizona after

his freshman season. As a sophomore, he's helped lead the Monarchs to a 17-12 record and to first place in the Western State Conference.

"[Lewis] has taken a leadership position on this baseball team," Head Coach Dave Mallas said. "He does a great job of leading by example."

Playing next to sophomore pitcher/outfielder Eddie Baeza, Mallas said that Lewis and Baeza have done a great job working together.

"When you have two superstars like Eddie [Baeza] and DJ, you always have to see if they'll get along," said Mallas. "But, both of them have put aside their egos and worked hard to make this team better."

Lewis' father, Deryck, said that he pushed his son because he believed he would be a great player and in every position his son played, he excelled.

"When he was 7 years old, I knew that he was going to be special," Lewis' father said.

The only positions Lewis didn't play in high school were pitcher, shortstop and second base. When he transferred to Arizona, Lewis moved to left field, the same position he now plays at Valley.

Lewis said his parents have played a major role in his development as a player and a person. He said they have always been there for him.

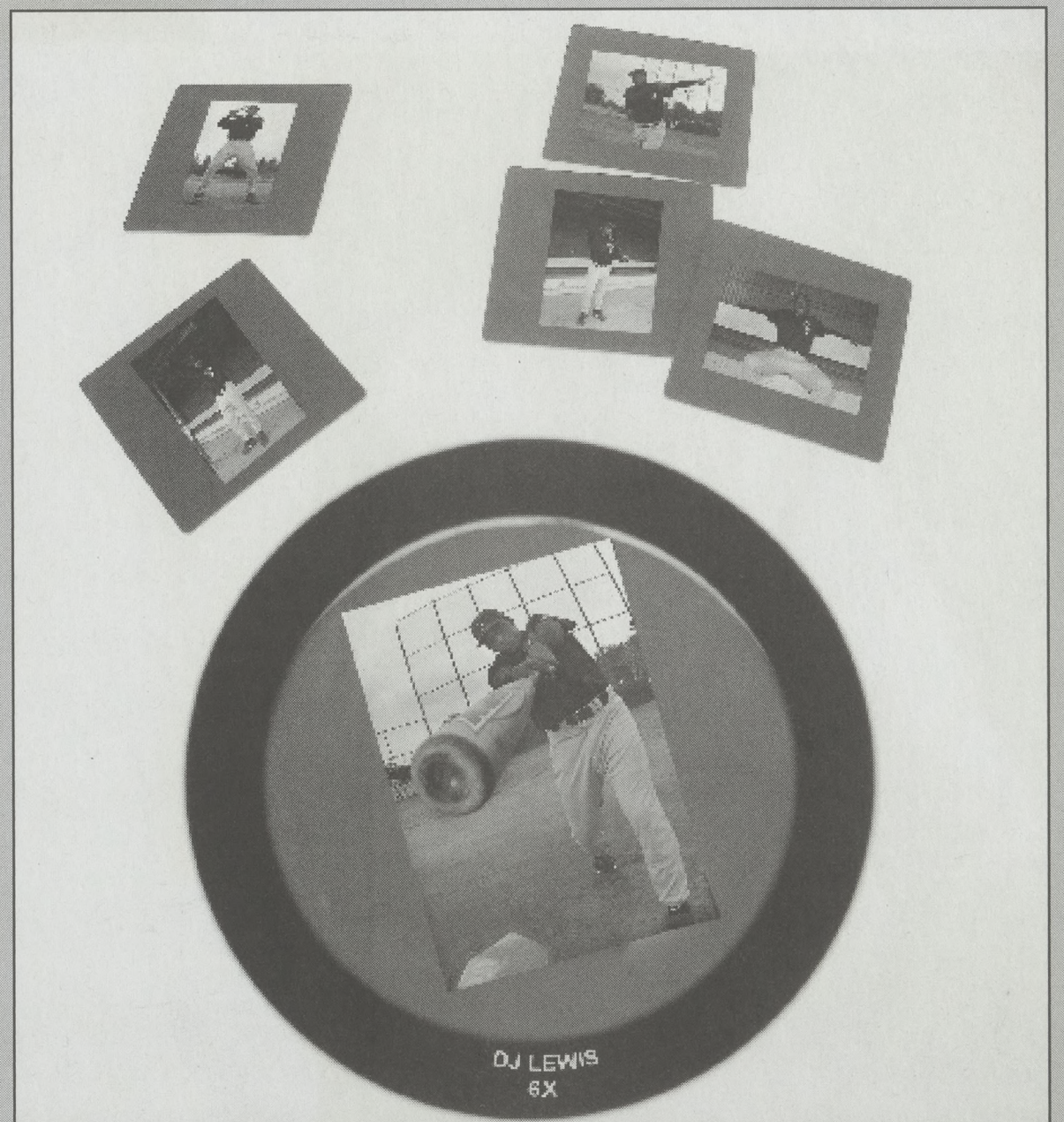
Lewis is now here for Valley. He's one of the reasons the Monarchs have made it from the worst team in the conference last year to first place this year.

**"I want to bring Valley baseball back on the map... my goal is to make an impact this season and hopefully win the state championship."**

"I want to bring Valley baseball back on the map," said Lewis. "My goal is to make an impact this season and hopefully win the state championship."

Lewis might have played multiple positions in his youth, but there was one team that was close to his heart and one team that he would really like to play for.

"I've been an LA boy my entire life," Lewis said. "So, to be drafted by [the Dodgers] would be incredible because I'll be playing in front of my family and friends daily."



GREG BURMANN / VALLEY STAR ILLUSTRATION

**Left-Field Leader** - DJ Lewis came from Arizona University to play left field for LAVC. His skills have helped the Monarchs win 17 games more than last year's team and to place first in conference play.



# GALLERY



**WITH GRACE** - Sandi Roberts of Valley College dances to a work she choreographed entitled "Vice."  
DAN VILLASENOR / VALLEY STAR



**THAT WICKED WITCH** - Julie Bermel and Kia Herman of Pierce College won in the theatre category for their performance of a scene from "Wicked" by Stephen Schwartz and Winnie Holzman.  
DAN VILLASENOR / VALLEY STAR

*Photos, Text and Layout*

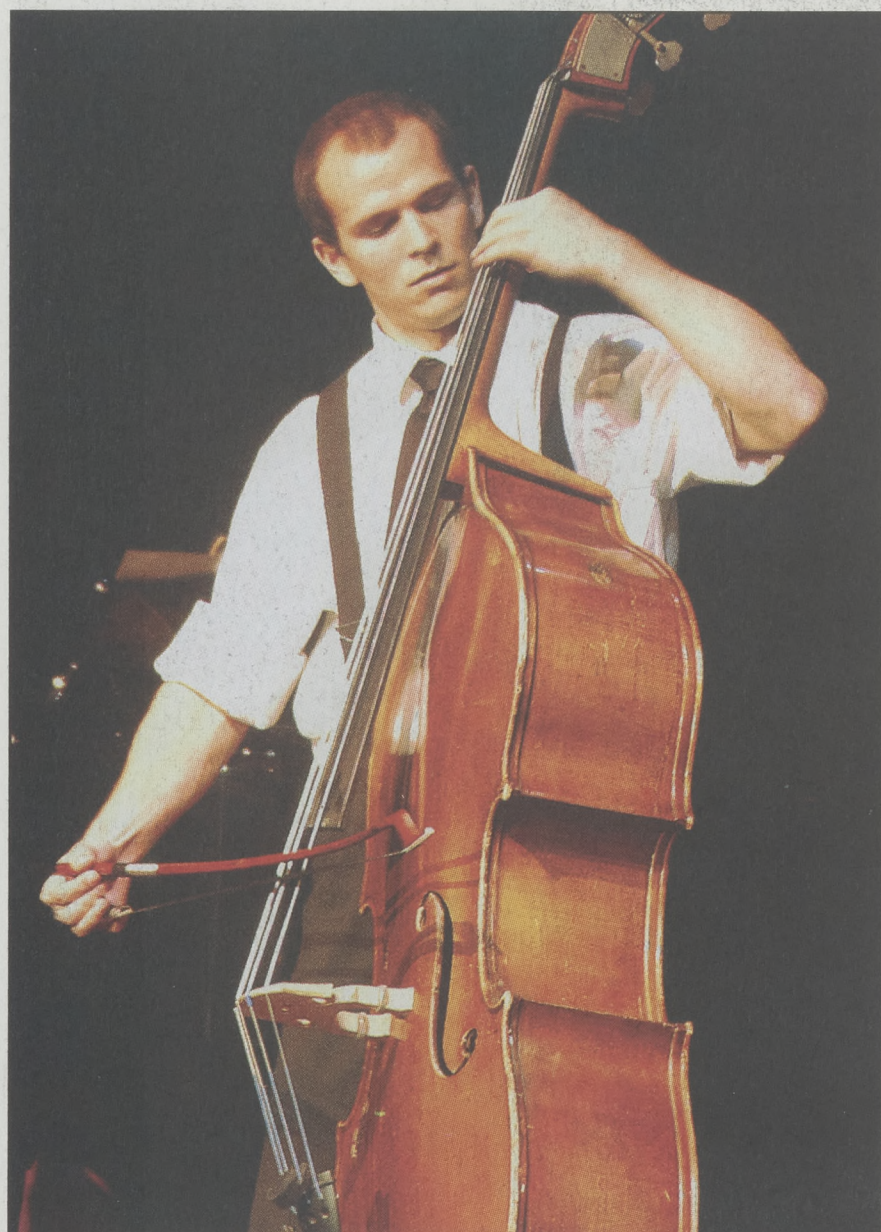
*by*

*Daniel Villaseñor*

Students from Moorpark, Pierce and Valley colleges competed for cash prizes at the 4th Annual Showcase Awards, sponsored by Warner Bros., Saturday night at Valley's Mainstage Theater.



**TO BE OR NOT TO BE** - Vanessa Cate of Moorpark College competed in the theatre category, performing "Handler" by Jane Martin.  
DAN VILLASENOR / VALLEY STAR



**HOT RYTHYM** - BRENTON KOSSAK OF MOORPARK COLLEGE PERFORMS ON HIS CONTRA-BASS "THE SONATA" IN G MINOR BY HENRY ECCLES.  
DAN VILLASENOR / VALLEY STAR

## 4th Annual Showcase Awards



**BACK TO BACK** - Former Showcase Award winner Shawn Henry performs "Wheel of a Dream" at Saturday's event.  
DAN VILLASENOR / VALLEY STAR